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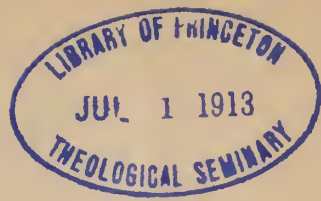
# THE NEW AFRICA.

Wm. Cappington



Hampton, Va.  
Normal School Press Print,  
1887.





Wm. Coppinger.

# THE NEW AFRICA.

## SEVENTH ANNUAL PAPER.

Interest in the opening of Africa continues unabated, and signs are numerous that the time of her uplifting has come. Marvellous discoveries are being constantly made, and the darkness that has be-gloomed the vast interior for centuries is being gradually dispersed. Its majestic rivers are being traced to their sources and its beautiful lakes surveyed. Christian enlightenment is penetrating the "Dark Continent" from almost every prominent point, and the brightest features of modern civilization are penetrating everywhere.

### GOVERNMENTAL.

The extensive territories on the river Niger which, under the Conference held at Berlin for the distribution of colonial possessions in Africa were assigned to Great Britain, are to be governed by a company. A Royal charter bestows on the National African Company powers of governing and defending the territories it has acquired from native Princes, covering the entire "basin of the Niger," equal to those possessed by the old East India Company in India. They can, for example, raise troops, issue a coinage, and pass laws. The consent of the English Secretary of State is necessary to all their acts, and the Company cannot divide the produce of customs duties as profits or other taxes, but must expend them upon the administration of its territories. The following are some of the more salient clauses of the new charter:—

1. The said Company is authorized and empowered to hold and retain the full benefit of the cessions mentioned in the preliminary statement, and all rights and powers for the purposes of government and preservation of public order over the territories, lands, and property comprised in these cessions, or affecting any territories, lands, or property in the neighborhood of the same, and to hold, use, enjoy, and exercise the same powers for the purposes of the Company and on the terms of this charter.

2. The Company shall be bound by and shall fulfil all the stipulations contained in the Acts of Cessions, subject to any subsequent agreement affecting those stipulations approved by one of the English Principal Secretaries of State.

3. The Company shall always be British in character and domicile, and shall have its principal office in England; and its principal representatives and all the directors shall be natural born British subjects or persons naturalized by an Act of Parliament.

4. The Company shall not have power to transfer the benefit of the cessions aforesaid, except with the consent of the English Secretary of State.

6. The Company shall discourage and, as far as practicable, abolish by degrees any system of domestic servitude existing among the native inhabitants, and no foreigner, whether European or other, shall be allowed to own slaves of any kind in the Company's territories.

7. The Company shall not, in any way, interfere with the religion of any class or tribe of the people of its territories, or of any of the inhabitants thereof, except so far as may be necessary in the interests of humanity; and all forms of religious worship may be exercised within the said territories, and no hindrance shall be offered thereto except as aforesaid.

8. In the administration of justice, regard shall be had to the customs and laws of the nation to which the parties belong.

10. The Company shall afford all facilities requisite for British ships in the Company's harbors.

11. The Company may hoist and use on its buildings and elsewhere in its territories, and on its vessels, such distinctive flag indicating the British character of the Company as the English Secretary of State and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall approve.

12. The Company is further authorized and empowered to acquire other rights, interests, authorities, or powers of any kind or nature whatever, in, over, or affecting the territories, lands, or property comprised in the several treaties aforesaid, or any rights, interests, authorities, or powers of any kind or nature whatever, in, over, or affecting other territories, lands, or property in the regions aforesaid, to hold the same for the purposes of the Company on the terms of the charter,

14. Nothing in this charter shall authorize the Company to grant any monopoly of trade, and subject only to customs duties and charges as authorized, and to restrictions on importation similar in character to those applicable in the United Kingdom; trade with the Company's territories shall be free, and foreigners will be subject to administrative dispositions in the interests of commerce and order. The customs duties and charges shall be applied for the purpose of defraying the expenses of government and the performance of treaty obligations, including provision for repayment of expenses already

incurred in relation to the acquisition, maintenance, and execution of treaty rights. The Company shall furnish accounts and particulars of the rates, incidence, collection, proceeds, and application of such duties, and shall give effect to any direction by the English Secretary of State as to any modification of the description, rate, collection, or application of any duties.

15. The Company shall perform all the obligations and stipulations relating to the Niger and its affluents, or the territories neighboring thereto, or situate in Africa, undertaken by Great Britain under the General Act of the Berlin Conference or in any other treaty or arrangement made or to be made.

At meetings of the shareholders of the National African Company, called for the purpose, and held August 3, 8 and 12, it was resolved, in view of the altered position of the Company, to change its name to "The Royal Niger Company, chartered and limited," by which name this enterprise will be known hereafter.

In the competition of the Great Powers for increased colonial possessions France has not been behind. From the Berlin Conference she emerged the possessor of a territory as large as France and England combined. This territory has a coast line of over 600 miles, and access to a great stretch of the Congo river, which separates it from the Congo Free State. Since 1842 the French have had a hold on the West Coast of Africa, at Gaboon, but in consequence of the hostility of the natives it was found difficult to penetrate into the interior. The credit of performing this hazardous task and of annexing the new countries to France, belongs to M. de Brazza, who has spent the last ten years in Western and Central Africa.

M. de Brazza has been appointed Commissary-General of the French Congo—that is to say, the Government of the Gaboon and the Congo. It will have no longer any connection with the French settlements on the Gold Coast, Grand Bassam and Assinie, nor with those on the Slave Coast, Grand Popo, Kotonu, and Porto Novo, which will be attached to the Lieutenancy of the Riv'ere du Sud, connected with the Government of Senegal. The French Government have established a Protectorate over the Great Comoro Island. The Comoro Islands, discovered in 1598 by Von Houtmun, consist of several large and small islands, the group being about 150 miles long from end to end. They are situated at the northern entrance of the Mozambique channel, between the northwest coast of Madagascar and Cape Delagoa, the northern limit of the Portuguese possessions and the southern limit of the territory of the Sultan of Zanzibar. The islands are high and mountainous, partly volcanic and with coasts of coral formation. The vegetation has a tropical character.

but includes excellent timber for ship-building. An important feature is the abundance of tortoises. Numbers of cattle and sheep are also produced in the islands. The natives are a mixed race of East African Swahili Negroes, Arabs, and Malays. They are a peaceable and hospitable people.

An agreement between France and Germany with respect to their conterminous territories on the West coast of Africa contains the following important clauses. First, with regard to the Gulf of Biafra : —

The Government of his Majesty the Emperor of Germany renounces in favor of France all rights of sovereignty and protectorate over the territories acquired south of the river Campo by German subjects and which have been placed under his Majesty's protection. It undertakes to abstain from all political action south of the line following the said river from its mouth to the point where it meets the meridian situate 10 degrees of longitude east of Greenwich, and from that point the parallel continued to its junction with the meridian situate 15 degrees of longitude east of Greenwich. Neither of the two Governments will take measures which may affect the liberty of navigation and commerce of subjects of the other on the waters of the river Campo in the portion which will remain intermediate and which will be used in common by the subjects of both.

The next field of agreement is the Slave Coast, where—

The Government of the French Republic, recognizing the German protectorate over the Togo territory, renounces the rights which it might assert over the territory of Porto Seguro, by virtue of its relations with King Mtesa. The Government of the Republic also renounces its rights over Little Popo, and recognizes the German protectorate over this territory. French merchants at Porto Seguro and Little Popo will preserve for their persons and their goods, as well as in their business transactions, until the conclusion of the customs arrangement hereinbefore provided for, the benefit of the usages which they at present enjoy; and all the advantages or immunities which would be accorded to German subjects will be equally acquired by them. They will in particular preserve the right of transporting and freely exchanging their goods between their warehouses or shops in Porto Seguro and Little Popo and the neighboring French territory, without being liable to the payment of duty. The same privilege will, in return, be conceded to the German merchants.

The German and French Governments reserve the right of consulting, after an inquiry on the spot, in order to arrive at the estab-

lishment of common customs regulations in the territories comprised between the English possessions of the Gold Coast in the west and Dahomey to the east.

The boundary between the German territories and the French territories of the Slave Coast will be fixed on the spot by a mixed Commission. The line of demarcation will start from a point to be determined on the coast between the territories of Little Popo and Angona. In tracing this line northwards account shall be taken of the boundaries of native possessions.

The German Government undertakes to abstain from all political action to the east of the line so drawn. The French Government undertakes to abstain from all political action to the west of it.

With respect then to the Senegambia :

The Government of the German Emperor renounces all rights or pretensions which it might assert over the territories situated between the river Nunez and the Mallecourie, especially over Coba and Kabitai; and recognizes the French sovereignty in these territories.

The commercial and navigation treaty concluded between Germany and the Sultan of Zanzibar has been presented to the Bundesrath. This treaty takes the place of the treaty concluded on June 13th, 1859, between the Hanseatic Towns and Zanzibar. It contains concessions not made in treaties with other Powers. Certain goods for transport to the territories protected by Germany—as agricultural implements, means of transport and railway and tramway materials—are to be entirely free from duties. The usual import duty will be 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, but spirits will pay 25 per cent.

A treaty has been formed between Portugal and Gungunhanal son and successor of Umzila, by which the African King agrees for himself and his successors to obey all the laws and orders which are transmitted him from the Portuguese, of the Province of Mozambique, and to allow no other nation to obtain any sovereignty within his nation. A Portuguese Resident is to be appointed in the principal localities, especially in the district of Lorenzo Marquez, Inhambane, and Sopala, in order to exercise influence upon the local authorities. It is especially agreed that King Gungunhana shall protect the schools and missions which the Portuguese Government shall establish, and that he shall furnish men and material for the construction of needed edifices. It is reported that Major Carvalho led a Portuguese expedition to the capital of Muta-Yanvo, and arranged a treaty with the ruling monarch, by which he is placed



under the protectorate of the King of Portugal, and a Portuguese Resident will live at the King's capital.

#### THE CONGO FREE STATE.

The "Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society" for October contains a valuable paper by Colonel Sir Francis de Winton, who succeeded Mr. H. M. Stanley as agent of the King of the Belgians in the Congo Free State. This officer affirms that the central region embraced in the Congo Free State is a vast rectangular table land, being 475,000 square miles in area, having a gradual slope from the southeast to the northwest, and that within this region there is hardly one hundred miles of area which is not approachable by a waterway. This fact has an important bearing upon the probable opening of the country. The King of the Belgians has given orders for the building of steamers on the Upper Congo out of native woods, and the preparations are so far advanced that by next summer it is hoped to have a steamer of one hundred tons, drawing eighteen inches of water, with a speed of ten knots an hour, in a fair way toward completion. The most valuable article of commerce in the interior at present is ivory. It is said that 386 tusks, averaging fifty pounds weight each, were offered for sale in a single day at Stanley Pool. Colonel de Winton affirms that any plan by which this ivory can be brought to the coast without the intervention of slaves will be a sure overthrow of the slave trade, for the ivory alone would not pay the expenses of the traffic, the present plan being to sell the slaves as well as the ivory they carry. If steamers and a railway can bear these products to the coast, the cruel system of the slave trade will receive a deadly blow. In connection with Colonel de Winton's address, Mr. Stanley remarked that the entire Congo State, though vast in its area and inexhaustible in its resources, was not worth a two-shilling piece unless a railway could be built connecting the Upper Congo with the sea.

The new Congo Free State became a part of the Universal Postal Union, January 1, 1886.

The substitution of Belgian for English officials on the Lower Congo, the preparations made for the construction of the contemplated railroad along its southern bank, and the contract just signed at Brussels for a loan of \$25,000,000 to an international syndicate to colonize the Congo basin, mark a new departure in the history of the great enterprise begun by Mr. Stanley nine years ago. The traffic of the Upper Congo is sufficiently vouched for by the thriving condition of its sole existing outlet—the narrow strip of seaboard ruled by the Sultan of Zanzibar—as well as by Germany's ea-



gerness to gain a permanent footing in that quarter. The traffic of the Lower Congo may be judged by the extreme reluctance which the Portuguese master of the Angola and Mossamedes coast line gave up in December, 1881, his claim to monopolize the control of the local trade. The annual value of the latter, even upon the small portion of the river lying between the sea and the Yellala rapids, was rated as high as \$14,000,000 by an estimate made in January, 1883, barely five and a half years after Stanley's exploration. That of the Upper Congo is, for obvious reasons, less easily reduced to figures but its enormous extent is beyond all question. Mr. Stanley himself has more than once asserted that when the two sections of the river are united by the projected railway around the cataracts, and when the commerce of both is fully developed its normal value, taking one year with another, will not fall short of \$350,000,000.

#### THE BERLIN CONFERENCE.

The representatives of the Powers who attended the Congo Conference last year met at the Berlin Foreign Office on April 19, under the presidency of Count Herbert Bismarck, in conformity with article 38 of the General Act, for the purpose of drawing up a protocol as to the delivery of the ratifications, when Count Bismarck announced that the General Act had been ratified by all the Conference Powers, with the exception of the United States. Instead of exchanging ratifications, as is customary in the case of most treaties, the Powers in the present instance deposited their respective ratifications in the archives of the Imperial Government.

Why the Government of the United States has not imitated the example of its co-signatories of the Congo General Act is not stated in the official announcement of the results of the meeting, but its omission to do so is the more singular, as this Government was the first that recognized the flag of the International Association, some time before this enterprise had developed into the Congo Free State. But the United States Government was not satisfied with the tenor of certain clauses in the General Act which had been signed by its representative at the Conference, and the subsequent message of the President to Congress contained the following allusion to the subject: "A conference of delegates of the principal commercial nations was held at Berlin last winter to discuss methods whereby the Congo basin might be kept open to the world's trade. Delegates attended on behalf of the United States on the understanding that their part should be merely deliberative, without imparting to the results any binding character, as far as the United States were concerned. This reserve was due to the indisposition of this Government to share in

any disposal, by an international congress, of jurisdictional questions in remote foreign territories. The results of the Conference were embodied in a formal Act, of the nature of an international convention, which laid down certain obligations purporting to be binding on the signatories, subject to ratification within one year."

The Government of the United States has later declined to ratify the General Act which embodies the results of the Berlin Conference, on the ground that the document would impose obligations on the American Government at variance with its traditional foreign policy. The attitude of the Government of Washington was defined by the President in his message of December last, as follows: "Notwithstanding the reservation under which the delegates of the United States attended, their signatures were attached to the General Act in the same manner as those of the other Governments, thus making the United States appear without reserve or qualification as signatories to a joint international engagement, imposing on the signers the conservation of the territorial integrity of distant regions where we have no established interests or control. This Government does not, however, regard its reservation of liberty of action in the premises at all impaired; and, holding that an engagement to share in the obligation of enforcing neutrality in the remote valley of the Congo would be an alliance the responsibilities of which we are not in a position to assume, I abstain from asking the sanction of the Senate to that General Act."

The question is, whether the President was right in his interpretation of the meaning of the General Act as regards the assumption of an obligation on the part of the American Government to enforce the neutrality of the Congo State instead of merely respecting it. Meanwhile the fact is, America has ceased to be a party to the instrument known as the Acte Generale.

#### EXPLORATIONS.

"THROUGH MASAI LAND: a journey of exploration among the snow-clad volcanic mountains and strange tribes of Eastern Equatorial Africa," by Joseph Thomson, is a decided addition to the number of valuable works relating to the exploration of the "Dark Continent." The author has already made himself a name, since the expedition which is here reported is the third which he has made to the interior of Africa, while as yet but twenty-six years of age. The Masai are described as magnificent specimens of their race, considerably over six feet, with an aristocratic, savage dignity that filled the explorer with admiration. They are divided into twelve principal clans, or sub-tribes, and occupy the region from Mount

Kilimanjaro, on the south, to lake Baringo, on the north. The southern section has an altitude of from three to four thousand feet above the sea. It is sterile and unproductive, not because of the barrenness of the soil, but the scantiness of the rainfall. In the vicinity of Kilimanjaro, however, there are small areas which are well cultivated. Eastward, between lake Baringo and Victoria-Nyanza, Mr. Thomson passed through the Wa-Kwafi tribe, allied to the Masai, but cultivators of the soil and not so warlike. They are spoken of as singularly honest and reliable; so much so that valuable articles might be left in their charge without fear. Proceeding further to Victoria-Nyanza, he came upon the region of the Kavirondo, where there was a dense population, the people seeming unsophisticated and living in the enjoyment of an abundance of native products.

M. Aubry, who recently visited the Gallas, describes King Menelik of Shoa as a pleasant man of much intelligence, who appears anxious to encourage the arts of civilization, while his principal men are hostile to all Europeans. This traveler surveyed the source of two rivers, the Hawash and the Mugueur, the latter a tributary of the Blue Nile.

An interesting pamphlet dealing with the Congo has been issued by Lieut. Wissmann, who was the companion of Dr. Pogge, and who lately returned from his explorations of the Kassai. He divides the Congo territory into three parts—the Lower, Middle, and Upper Congo. The Lower Congo, which is best known, is the least favorable specimen of the country. It is badly watered, thinly inhabited, and low lying. The Upper Congo is dry, swampy, and also thinly peopled. The Middle Congo is well watered, high above the level of the sea, densely peopled, and without marshes of any extent. "The Lower Congo I consider an obstacle to be surmounted before the fertile region is reached. . . . The commercial future of the Congo depends on this region." Lieut. Wissmann has returned to the Congo to continue his explorations in the still unknown sections.

The report published by Lieut. von Nimptsch, of the German Army, son-in-law of Gen. von Loe, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor, gives interesting details of the journey he made with Herr Wolff, a traveler in the service of the Congo Free State, and which has resulted in the discovery of a river likely to be of material value to traders with the Congo. The Congo, in its course from the south-east, makes a wide bend to the north, and then descends again to the Atlantic, a large section of country being embraced in this curve. Within this curve is the river Kassai, which Lieut. von Nimptsch

regards as being "of greater importance to commerce than the Congo itself." Describing their journey, he says that as far as Luebu, the Kassai flows through wide plains well adapted for cultivation, and pasturage, and forests of palm-trees and gutta-percha trees. There are many villages on the banks, and the travelers met with great civility in all of them save one, the inhabitants of which fled at their approach. One tribe, adds Lieut. von Nimptsch, "was remarkable for its joviality. The natives accompanied the steamer in their canoes, and when we landed, organized dances and songs in our honor." They discovered several affluents of the Kassai, and they calculated that they were navigable for a distance of 250 miles. "But the most important affluent," the report goes on to say, "is that which Herr Wolff explored in the steamer *Vorwärts* during the months of February and March. He ascended this stream to a distance of 430 leagues from its mouth, and one of its northern affluents brought him to within a week's march of Nyangoue. He might have gone still further had his steamer not met with an accident, for there are no cataracts in this river. This network of navigable water, extending over more than 3,000 miles. is most admirable, and in future it will be possible to travel eastward from the Atlantic. reaching Nyangoue and then lake Tanganyika by leaving the Congo at the mouth of the Kassai, without being obliged to ascend the whole of the former stream, thus avoiding the Stanley Falls."

Lieut. Edward Glerup, the ninth white man to cross Central Africa from sea to sea, has arrived at Brussels from Zanzibar. As he followed the route traced by Stanley in his journey across the continent, his trip is geographically without important results, but he has collected much interesting information with regard to the improved facilities for traveling in Africa, the remarkable growth of the power and influence of Arab traders, and the value and prospects of Germany's new possessions in East Africa.

The eight men, from Livingstone to Capello and Ivens, who preceded Glerup in the trip across the Continent, all occupied from two to two and a half years. Glerup has now demonstrated that the journey can be made in about eight months, or only two-thirds the time that Burton and Speke, the first Englishmen to visit the great lakes, required to travel from Zanzibar to Tanganyika. With the aid of the Congo State steamers the journey from the Atlantic to Stanley Falls, 1,200 miles up the river, can now be made in two months. Lieut. Glerup was six months on the road between Stanley Falls and Zanzibar. The Congo State in the west and the east coast Arab traders, whose many caravans have made a

beaten highway to the Indian Ocean, have brought about this great improvement in the conditions of African travel.

Important changes have occurred in some regions that have not been visited by whites since Stanley's trip, nine years ago. Along the 300 miles of the Congo, between Stanley Falls and Nyangwe, Glerup found two large and several small Arab stations—collecting points for slaves and ivory. Nyangwe, the famous trading town, has largely grown, and neighboring Kasongo, which Livingstone described as a little village, has 8,000 inhabitants. Near these two towns the Arabs rear large herds of cattle. Along the road to Tanganyika they have several stations for the training of female slaves for labor on the plantations. Ten caravans now travel the road to and from Central Africa where one was formerly seen. Glerup often met them, and he says that east of Tanganyika it was not uncommon for two or three caravans to camp together, and that their combined force was sometimes over 1,000 men.

Dr. Fischer has arrived at Zanzibar after a fruitless search for Dr. Junker, the last news from whom was unfavorable. Herr Schwartz states in an account of his journey in the inland districts of the Cameroons, that he followed the leading caravan route to the Calabar river, and, after reaching Bakundu, on the confines of the territory already explored, continued his journey eastward into a region of which all hitherto existing maps are untrustworthy, and which is rigorously guarded by jealous tribes. Pursuing his way through far-reaching primeval forests, rich in gum trees and wild coffee, and teeming with elephants, Mr. Schwartz crossing the Kumba river, reached the territory of Bason, which he found to be studded with densely-populated towns. This district, from which the people dwelling on the coast obtain ivory, oil, and slaves, is a picturesque and comparatively well cultivated plateau. The inhabitants, called Bafarami, who are engaged in agriculture and cattle rearing, have up to the present not even been known by name. His further advance was arrested in the vicinity of the Upper Calabar by a party of 500 natives, in consequence of which he returned to the coast by the Mungo river.

The destruction of Porro's expedition is announced. This enterprise was undertaken by the Geographical Society of Milan, and was equipped in the most thorough manner. Its object was to establish commercial relations between Abyssinia and the Nile, and to explore the unknown regions between these points. Porro set out with a suite of distinguished savants and experts, and safely reached Galdezza, where, after a desperate resistance, all of the members of the expedition were murdered. The Portuguese travelers, Ivens and



Capello, who have heretofore published volumes concerning African explorations, have again returned to Lisbon from an examination of the region through which flow the affluents of the Upper Congo and the Zambesi. Intelligence has been received of the death of Herr Robert Flegel, the celebrated explorer of the Niger. Senors Cervera and Quiroga, who, starting from the Canary Islands, after landing at Rio Ceoro, traversed a considerable portion of northwest Africa hitherto unexplored, have returned to Madrid. From a geographical point their researches appear to have given results of considerable importance.

## RAILROADS.

The Government of the Congo Free State, early in the year, concluded an agreement with Mr. H. M. Stanley, Mr. James F. Hutton, President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and others, acting on behalf of the Congo Railway syndicate, for the formation of a Company for the construction of a railroad, 235 miles long, uniting the Lower with the Upper Congo. It was proposed that the Company should raise a capital of from £1,000,000 to £2,000,000 sterling, and be provided, under the auspices of the Congo Government, as a State railway, with a Royal charter, and that subscriptions be opened in the capital of each of the fourteen Powers which took part in the Berlin Conference.

This syndicate, after months of fruitless negotiations, has dissolved, and Belgian capitalists have taken up the enterprise. The English accuse the Congo authorities of defeating their scheme, because they desired that Belgians should build and control the railroad. The Congo authorities, on the other hand, say the negotiations failed because the English proposed, in effect, to set up a government of their own in Congo, and because they practically demanded a monopoly of trade, which, under the Act of the Berlin Congress, could not be conceded to them.

The Belgian capitalists, to whom the Congo State has granted a concession for building the railroad, have subscribed the funds needed to send a party of engineers and specialists to the Congo to survey the route, determine the cost, and prepare the plans. It is expected that this work will occupy more than a year. The new syndicate asserts that it has already received assurances of the financial cooperation of foreign capitalists when the work of track-laying is ready to begin.

The construction of a railroad between St. Paul de Loando and Ambaca, a trading centre on the Coanza river, has been authorized and guaranteed by the Lisbon Government. The line of country



through which it is to pass has been surveyed. The Geographical Society of Lisbon has received from an engineer plans for a railroad between Lorenzo Marquez and Pretoria. This engineer, M. Joaquim, gives an interesting description of the region traversed, and of certain important towns on the way and where many elements of civilization are to be found. The German East African Company is in negotiation with the English contractor, Mackinnan, for the construction of a railway from Dar-es-Salaam (Zanzibar) into the interior of East Africa. The project is a very extensive one, viz., from the coast of Muini, in Usagara, whence a branch would go to the north corner of the Nyassa, and another to the south corner of Victoria lake, both lines being then connected by secondary lines with lake Tanganyika.

## CABLES.

The telegraph cable between London and the west coast of Africa was opened July 13, and the latter is now in direct communication with the rest of the civilized world. Having so long remained outside the region of telegraphic communication the west African coast seems now likely to be in a plethoric condition in that respect, as this section, as well as the Gold coast, is to have a duplicate cable, each worked by a rival company. As one of the telegraph companies is laying the cable as far south as St. Paul de Loando, it is believed that the British Government will order the construction of a duplicate line to the Cape of Good Hope, as also for the extension of the cable to St. Helena and Ascension. A subsidy of £19,000, of which the English colonies on the west coast are to contribute £5000, has been voted by the British Parliament to the west coast of Africa direct cable. The line of cable on the east coast of Africa has a subsidy from the same Government of £25,000. The submarine telegraph lines connecting Aden and Port Natal touch at Zanzibar, Mozambique, and Lorenzo Marquez. From Zanzibar a line runs to Tamatave in Madagascar. In Cape Colony there are 4000 miles of telegraph lines, and last year not less than 650,000 dispatches were sent.

## GOLD AND DIAMONDS.

There is plenty of gold in the highlands that run parallel to the west coast of Africa, from the interior of Senegal along the rear of Sierra Leone and Liberia to the Niger. From these regions there has been a steady export of gold from the most ancient times, across the Sahara to the Mediterranean. The supply is inexhaustible, but foreign efforts during the last five years to develop the mines have been unprofitable.

In the year 1867 a Dutch farmer on the Orange river found a diamond with which his children played for a time, not knowing its value, but which he subsequently sold for \$2,500. It was the first gem of the kind from South Africa, but in the year 1884 the value of diamonds exported from Cape Colony was over fourteen millions of dollars, while the total value from 1867 to 1884 was \$148,862,880. The great diamond fields lie between the Vaal and the Orange rivers, in what was called Griqua Land West, in the Orange River Free State, and thither have flocked men from all parts of the world. The natives from different sections in South Central Africa come to labor at the mines, and they are continually passing back and forth between Kimberly and their several countries. Kimberly is in the centre of the diamond fields. It is situated about four hundred miles from Darban, a little north of west. It is a town whose name does not appear on the gazetteers of five years ago, but it is now to South Africa what London is to England. It is connected by rail with the surrounding regions and has become the emporium of trade. It is reported that the number of registered Kaffirs engaged in the mines last year was about 72,000, of whom 30,000 were fresh arrivals.

#### TRADE.

The past year has been remarkable as one of unusually severe depression in all branches of commerce upon the west coast of Africa. African produce, especially, has been affected, the market rates in Europe being for many articles scarcely more than half what they were a year ago, while the English shipping companies have suffered so severely as in many cases to be unable to pay any dividends, and even to be compelled to resort to the expedient of reducing the number of steamers employed in the African service.

Among those who have done so much to make the geography of Africa familiar to the world, Mr. Joseph Thomson may fairly claim a prominent position. He lately returned from the Niger and the Western Empires of Sokoto and Gaudo, where he passed several months in behalf of the African Trading Company. At a meeting of the British Association, Mr. Thomson stated that on reaching Lokoja, at the confluence of the Bienue with the Niger, he saw "a people astir with religious activity and enthusiasm, and especially far advanced in the arts and industries." From Rabba the journey to Sokoto had to be continued by means of the ordinary African caravan, the route being through Kupe and Yauri to the Gulbi-n-Gindi, which is then followed to the neighborhood of Sokoto. Mr. Thomson expressed the opinion "that in all the wide range of tropical Africa there is no more promising field for commerce than this semi-civil-

ized region which forms the central area of the Niger basin." He came to this conclusion "not on the ground that it is more fertile or more rich in natural productions—though in other respects comparing favorably with other parts—but for other reasons. These may be briefly summarized as follows: (1.) It is more densely populated than any other part of Africa, and divided into powerful and, for Africa, exceedingly well governed empires, in which life and property are almost as sacred as in Great Britain. (2.) The peoples are far advanced in civilization, and throughout Northern Africa are famed for the excellence of their various manufactures. (3.) The necessary machinery and organization to work the inland trade is ready to hand, as the Housa trader is famed for his commercial genius and enterprising spirit. (4.) An efficient transport service already exists, as the horse, camel, bullock, and donkey, flourish in their thousands. (5.) Owing to the much sterner conditions under which the people live, laborers are to be found without stint. (6.) The river Niger presents an uninterrupted waterway into the very heart of this region."

Mr. Thomson further says that he was successful beyond his anticipations. "The Sultan of Sokoto, in consideration of a subsidy, agreed to hand over to the National African Company all his rights to both banks of the river Binue and its tributaries for thirty miles inland, to give them an absolute monopoly of all trading and mineral rights throughout his dominions, and to make the African Trading Company the sole medium in his intercourse with foreigners. A few days later, the Sultan of Gando, whose rule extends over the main river from Lokoja to near Timbuctoo, granted the same rights and privileges for his empire, and thus the same Company were put in absolute command of the whole middle area of the Niger, and the whole of the basin of the Binue. In considering these concessions, it should be remembered that they were granted by educated men, who thoroughly knew the import of the whole matter. We were not dealing with barbarians, but educated Mahommedans, who thoroughly knew what they were about. Yet you would do well to remember that tapping African trade is not like striking oil in America, which some writers would have you believe. There will be no sudden gush. It will develop by slow accretions as the fruit of industry, foresight, and the spread of habits of labor among the natives."

France, ever alive to her own interests, is pushing steadily ahead in the Upper Niger and Soudan. In 1880-81, Gallieni, accompanied by a staff of resolute and enduring men, forced his way from the Senegal to the Niger. In 1883-1884 another party under Colonel Boileve opened the line of communication between the Senegal and

the Niger by the establishment of a new post at Koundou and a telegraph line from Bainmakoo to Bakel. The relations between St. Louis and Beledougou are being daily developed. In 1882 Colonel Borgnis-Desbordes planted the Tricolour upon the banks of the Niger at Bammakoo, and in the following year proclaimed the sovereignty of France over that part of the country. In Foutah-Jallo she has been far from inactive. Already her influence is felt there, and the possibility of its becoming a French colony is within measurable distance. In 1881 Dr. Bayol, Lieutenant-Governor of Dakar, explored Foutah and Bambouc. On his return to Paris he was accompanied by an ambassador from Timbo, who was desired by his King to inform the Government of the Republic that the treaties in existence would be respected. Again, from the "Mission d' Exploration du Haut-Niger" by Gallieni himself, we learn something of the task France has set herself to accomplish and will assuredly perform. "If Tonquin and Madagascar have for the moment turned her attention from the Senegal, it does not signify that she has abandoned her project of reaching, by that way, the heart of the Soudan, with the intention of drawing towards St. Louis the commerce that follows the Sahara route leading to Morocco and Tripoli." The check met by Flatters's expedition having shown that Timbuctoo could not be reached by the north for a long time, it must be accomplished by the Niger, and up to the present there does not seem to be much resistance on the part of the natives.

The possible influence of Germany upon the future development of the "Dark Continent" cannot well be over-estimated. On the east, the south, and the west, we see her ever watchful and ready to found a colony, or even a trading station only, and to enter into treaties with the native kings and chiefs; the outcome of all which is sure to be, sooner or later, the subordination of the native to the European influence. In the course of one week recently, there were laid before the Reichstag no less than three treaties by which chiefs of various tribes on the West coast place themselves and their people under the protection of the German Empire. The meaning of these treaties is, says *Kuhlow's Trade Review*, sooner or later "annexation," as by them the influence of all other foreign Powers is expressly excluded, while the chiefs place themselves—so far, at least, as all exterior matters are concerned—entirely in the hands of Germany. Under these treaties the natives concerned are assured of protection from foreign foes; but, on the other hand, they undertake not to entertain any warlike intention independently of the great Power. It is not reasonable to suppose that the natives fully understand the importance of the agreements into which they appear so readily to

have entered; but this much at least is clear, that Germany, as she agrees to be responsible for the security of these people in time of trouble, must be prepared to restrain them from anything that would tend to the provocation of surrounding tribes, or from any overt act that would lead to hostilities. Germany will take good care that the power she has thus obtained will be exercised when it suits her policy and the principles of German extension, which have been before her eyes ever since the first conception of a German colonial policy.

It is announced that the German East African Company, with a capital of £100,000, intends to establish at once and equip five stations in newly-acquired possessions. They will be essentially military stations on an agricultural foundation, in contrast to the stations of the Congo State, and will at the same time have commercial, administrative, and judicial functions. German officers are to train Negro soldiers for defensive purposes. For the working of plantations the labor of free natives, and, to a smaller extent, foreign work people, will be used, among the latter being Japanese, Coolies, or Chinese. These stations will be connected by caravan roads with the coast, which roads will be made to the Rusidji, the Pangani, and the centre of Usagara. At the present time the East African Company has under its protection 4,500 square miles of country in a central and favorable part of the heart of Africa. The establishment of the stations named above is only part of a large plan, which will be developed as circumstances allow.

It is understood that an agreement has been come to between Dr. Peters, President of the German East African Company, and Prince v. Hohenlohe-Langenburg, President of the Colonial Association, the effect of which is that these two large bodies will now work hand in hand. The Associations differ essentially in objects. While the East African Company is aiming after plantations, the Colonial Association seeks to further emigration.

The Germans in East Africa have left the flat lands of the coast and gone into the interior, on higher lands, where they find a fertile and beautiful terrace from 3,000 to 4,500 feet in elevation. Beyond this lies a barren steppe, which is followed by another very fertile plain that extends to the lakes of Central Africa. The entire territory is intersected by a well-formed and clearly defined river system. Several of these rivers are navigable for a long distance, thus affording a prospect of a future water-way for commerce; but their greatest promise is their possibility in the line of irrigation. The animal world is rich and varied, while the soil is already covered with rice and tobacco in large quantities. The various gums are obtainable in large quantities, and successful experiments have been made with



tropical vegetables, as well with the coffee-berry and vanilla. The smaller coffee-trees find a valuable protection under the mighty bananas. The German agents report that all they want is railroad transport to extract great wealth from the region; and it will again be remembered that this is in East Africa, which has hitherto been a doubtful territory, and one very little known in comparison to the western coast. This report accounts for the zeal developed there by the German nation in extending a protectorate over lands claimed by the Sultan of Zanzibar.

A line of steamships has been established from Oporto, Portugal, to Mossamedes. The steamers are to touch at Lisbon, Madeira, St Thomas, the Congo, Loanda, Novo Rodondo, and Benguela. The Government of the Congo State has accepted the offer of Messrs. Walford and Co., of Antwerp, to establish a line of Belgian steamers between Antwerp and the Congo. The vessels are to leave Antwerp at first once every six weeks, and afterwards once a month.

So much for what England, France, Germany and Portugal are doing: what are the people and Government of the United States about? Several public meetings have been held at New Orleans by leading colored men of that city, with the view of establishing direct trade with West Africa, at which letters from a number of men of influence were read.

Senator Morgan of Alabama wrote:—"Taking Liberia for the distributing point, it seems that a vast trade could be done on the Niger and Congo and along the Coast. I earnestly hope that direct and regular steam communication may be had between the city of New Orleans and Liberia. This would open up a traffic that would ultimately grow into vast proportions. We could scarcely find a country with which we could carry on commerce with so little capital, on the old plan of bartering cargoes of our manufactures, etc., for the products of those people. I am not trying to induce our Negro population to emigrate, though I know that they are now preparing to return to Africa and will go there sooner than the white people desire. But I am earnestly the advocate of any proper measures that will prepare that country as a field for their commercial and missionary work. It is time this way had been made open for them. Sooner than we now think they will be anxious to enter the field. When they do this their wealth and moral power will increase with great rapidity. It was for this reason that I felt so concerned to have the Congo country made a free State, as has been done by the Berlin Conference. Without defining how it could best be done, I am ready to support liberal measures for the establishment of a steam line to the West Coast of Africa, say to Liberia."



## CLIMATE.

It is saddening to record the mortality among the whites who have gone to establish the lights which are to irradiate Africa. The deaths are reported of Messrs Comber, Cruikshank, Crowe, Cobbingham, Maynard and M. Millan, missionaries of the English Baptist Missionary Society to the Congo, also of Mr. Craven, missionary of the Livingstone Inland Mission to the same river. The London Missionary Society has lost in the same way ten men, among them Messrs Mullins, Thompson, Dodgshun and Pensey, connected with its African Missions. Mr. McEwen, an engineer engaged in the construction of the missionary road from lake Nyassa to lake Tanganyika; Mr. James Roxburgh, an engineer sent to launch the missionary steamer "Good News" at lake Tanganyika, and Mr. Mims, also an engineer commissioned to put together and work the missionary steamer "Peace" on the Congo, have fallen victims to the climate of Equatorial Africa.

Mr. Joseph Thomson, the celebrated African traveler, lately stated that he "did not believe that any part of Central Africa could be colonized, if by colonization was meant the ability to live and rear a family there. People might go there and stay for a few years, and then leave in a fairly healthy condition, but that more than that could be done he did not, from experience, believe. Experience in India had shown that there were no European descendants beyond the third generation. Unless they became intermixed with native blood, Europeans died out in the second or third generation. If that were so in India, he was sure it would be still more so the case in Africa."

The action of the African climate upon foreigners is an element to be taken into the account in all calculations of the probabilities of individual usefulness in that country. A strong and level-headed white man in Europe and America is not necessarily a strong and level-headed man in Africa after the fever has laid its hand upon him. Protracted residence in Africa alone can determine whether a man's physical conditions will enable him to maintain the intellectual and moral balance he had in northern climes. Mr. Stanley's white men may have been all right when they left England, but brought under the disturbing influence of an inhospitable climate they become changed beings. They who go to Africa from Europe or America change, in the majority of cases, both the *Coelum* and the *Animum*. It is needless to look for much from the colonization efforts of Germans and the King of Belgium in Africa. The striking remark of Hon. John H. B. Latrobe, in his address before the Massachusetts Colonization Society, in 1853, is true—"There is but one people that can colonize Africa and live."

## LIQUORS.

It would be a great advance if Christian nations should put a stop to the exportation of spirituous liquors to the heathen races of the world. The delegates of German Missionary Societies, at a conference at Bremen, addressed a manifesto to the German people and also a memorial to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, asking that restrictions be imposed upon the sale of intoxicating liquors to native Africans. English Missionary Societies are acting in council in presenting an appeal to the British Government, showing the immense evils of the traffic, and what a menace it is to the native population of Africa. The American Board has united with other American missionary societies, including the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and the Baptist Boards, in appealing to the United State Government to aid in preventing the exportation of distilled liquors to Africa.

Consul William W. Long of Hamburg, furnishes the Department of State with the following statistics, prepared in that city, of the export of intoxicants from Hamburg alone to Africa, in quantities of 100 kilograms.

Liquors.	1884.	1885.
Cognac.....	402	194
Rum.....	111,549	108,356
Alcohol.....	10,498	7,218
Gin.....	222,529	207,995
Cordials, &c.....	6,312	7,105

The utterly demoralizing character of the traffic was well illustrated the other day when a member of the German Parliament defended himself from the charge of sending poisonous brandy to Africa, on the ground that he had never sent bad brandy to any of the German colonies, but *only to the French colonies*. He admitted that to these latter districts he had shipped rum of the very worst quality.

The trade of Europeans with Africa is most unscrupulous. Every steamer that touches her coasts is laden with gin, whiskey, firearms and powder, and missionaries are helpless to contend against their power for mischief coming from their country. The only two agencies able to protect the aborigines against this destruction that "walketh at noon-day," which is even worse than the "pestilence that walketh in darkness," are the Republic of Liberia or colonies like that and the Mohammedan system. The encroachment of Mohammedanism upon Sierra Leone is rolling back to the sea the

liquor traffic. May we not suppose that Providence has permitted the development of this religion in Africa, to save millions alive and to check European influence until by the spread of the temperance reformation in Europe and America, the poison shall be eliminated from the trade of Europe and America with Africa?

## MISSIONS.

Each of the prominent missionary societies this year has been marked by some striking feature—mostly the enthusiasm of success—while the applicants for appointment have been more numerous and of higher grade than ever.

The point has at length been settled that mission work, in order to be effective, should be conducted from stations far inland. The missions which have thus been located within the last twelve years, are as follows :

1. The Scotch Churches, ascending the Zambesi and Shire, have founded Livingstonia, combining a mission, an industrial institution and a Christian trading company.
2. The Church of England has position on the Victoria-Nyanza. It remains yet doubtful whether the best route thither is to be *via* Zanzibar or Mombasa, or ultimately up the Nile, over the way made famous by the career of General Gordon.
3. The London Society, by dint of great outlay and sacrifice, is on lake Tanganyika. It seems probable that they will in the future make use of the Scotch route, through lake Nyassa.
4. The Universities' Mission, which Dr. Livingstone tried so assiduously to aid at its outset, has at last secured good footing, and proceeding from Zanzibar, by the Rovuma river, has reached lake Nyassa and launched its steamer, the Charles Jansen.
5. The American Board, acting from Zululand, seeks new ground in Umzila's kingdom.
6. From their well-tilled field in Basutoland the French missionaries have extended operations to a point on the Upper Zambesi.
7. The American Board has entered from Benguela, on the west coast, and though once repulsed, has conquered a position at Bihe.
8. The English Baptists have followed Mr. Stanley's track up the Congo, and now ply their steamer above Stanley Pool. They are fixing stations at remote points.
9. The American Baptists, having assumed the work of the Livingstone Inland Mission, are operating on the same line as their English brethren.
10. The Church of England keeps the steamer Henry Venn on the Niger, and through native missionaries under the lead of the venerable Bishop Crowther, gains sites on the Upper Niger.

To these may be added, the steady progress from Cape Colony northward, and the pressure from Liberia and Sierra Leone toward the higher positions. The advantages of inland stations are numerous. The climate is more healthful: the people are there: there are the seats and sources of the heathenism of the Continent: there are the roots of the slave trade: the feeble streams of native commerce are eastward, and influences proceeding from the centre will be the natural migrations and movements of the people.

On the 31st of October, 1885, Bishop James Hannington, of the English Church Missionary Society, was killed at Unyalla, on the north-east shore of lake Nyanza. This was done by the orders of Mwanga, the young King of Uganda, son and successor of Mtesa. Bishop Hannington was trying a shorter route from the coast to Uganda, starting inland from Mombasa. The journey had hitherto been made from Zanzibar by way of Mpwapwa, and had occupied three months. To the Bishop's adventurous spirit it was no objection that the new way was comparatively unknown and dangerous. Rev. Henry P. Parker has been consecrated to the Bishopric, made vacant by Bishop Hannington's death. Mr. Parker was graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1875, and has been for several years at work in Calcutta, as the Secretary there of the Church Missionary Society. Mr. Parker is thirty-four years of age and unmarried.

The Pope has ruled that the Congo State forms, from an ecclesiastical point of view, part of Belgium, and that the clerical jurisdiction in it belongs to the Archbishop of Mechlin, Primate of Belgium, who accordingly becomes head of the Catholic clergy in the State. The African seminary of the University of Louvain is to educate the clergy for the parishes to be established there. The Portuguese Government, which had at first claimed the jurisdiction in question for the Portuguese Primate, has agreed to this arrangement.

The African Lakes Company, which is a philanthropic and commercial organization working in connection with the Free Church Mission in Eastern Central Africa, has sent out a new steamer to ply on the Lower Zambesi river. She will be of great service to all the missions in the interior that are to be reached from the east coast, and will be able not only to carry all necessary supplies but will pass over the unhealthy sections of the Zambesi with speed, so saving much time and also much peril to health. She is built on a new pattern, to run in shoal water, and is called the James Stevenson, after the well-known gentleman who has done so much for missions and commerce in Eastern Africa. The same African Lakes Company are

proposing to place a new steamer on lake Nyassa, as the Italia is now too small to do the work needed there.

Bishop William Taylor is gradually making his way into the region watered by Africa's great central river. On June 11 he wrote from "Bavana, mouth of the Congo," that he is distributing his workers among various points, viz.: four at Mamba, three at Kabinda, and others at two or three other points, including five at Malange, three hundred and ninety miles inland from Loando, reserving ten whom he proposes to take with him to the Upper Congo, a distance of three hundred and fifteen miles, going as far as Stanley Pool. He says his fifty-five workers for the opening and civilization of the Congo country are all in good health and are working from five to eight hours a day in the sunshine, besides doing work in other hours of the day in the shade. They clear, dig, and till the ground,—planting corn, sweet potatoes, yams and cassava, fruit trees and coffee. Then they build houses, handling the saw, the plane, and the hammer. October 2d, eight missionaries embarked at New York to reinforce the missions of the heroic Bishop.

The Methodist E. Church, in their diminished and diminishing appropriations for the Liberian mission, show their apprehension that their methods are ineffectual against the odds to be confronted. At the annual meeting of their General Missionary Committee they appropriated only \$2,500 for the work in Africa, and \$3,000 for Bishop Taylor's salary. For mission work in India, \$71,200; for China, \$60,000; for Germany and Switzerland, \$24,000; for Sweden, 97,000 crowns; for Denmark, \$10,000; for Norway, \$14,805; for South America, \$35,000. With reference to the large appropriations made for work in Europe, Rev. Dr. Curry made the striking remark that "it is carrying coals to Newcastle." "My theory," he said, "is to go to the most needy and where we can do the most good. I think Africa is that field."

## LIBERIA.

England and France are doing all they can (France is even more active than England) to divert the trade of Nigritia to their colonies of Senegal, Goree, Gambia, and Sierra Leone, by annexations, protectorates and military occupations.\* But no artificial divisions or arrangements of the country can interfere with or neutralize the natural or geographical conveniences. Trade will take the direction which traders consider easier and more profitable to them in spite of nominal political relationships. Liberia is in more easy and direct communication with the wealthy and virgin districts of Nigritia. She

\*The Mandingo army of Samuda is said to have recently driven the French from the gold regions of Boure, and to have besieged their garrison at Bammakoo.

is easily accessible to the enterprising, intelligent and industrious Mandingoes, whose military energy and political genius now sway most of the country east and north of Liberia, extending to the borders of Sierra Leone and the French settlements, astonishing the agents of M. de Freycinet, and baffling their efforts at the head waters of the Senegal, interfering with their railway projects and interrupting their telegraphic communication along the river.

These people will coalesce with Liberia. When larger capital is introduced into that Republic there will be very little difficulty in attracting to it most of the trade, which consists of cattle, hides, gold, ivory, rubber, gum copal, cotton, leather, palm oil, palm kernels, &c. Politicians and merchants at Sierra Leone are anticipating this and are calling the attention of their Government to the possibilities of Liberia. From the Mandingo country to the Liberian coast the journey is through fertile and well-watered districts where rice and other provisions are plentiful, differing in that respect from the uncultivated and hungry regions through which the caravans find their way to Gambia and Sierra Leone.

The men who have guided Liberia since the death of the last white Governor, in 1841, were all educated on the spot. All the Presidents but one landed in Liberia minors. Joseph J. Roberts was born in Virginia in 1809, emigrated to Liberia in 1829, a mechanic—learned books in Liberia. Stephen A. Benson, born in Maryland in 1816, emigrated in 1821. Daniel B. Warner, born in Maryland in 1815, emigrated in 1823. James S. Payne, born in Virginia in 1820, emigrated in 1829. Anthony W. Gardner, born in Virginia in 1820, emigrated in 1831. These facts mean that the men for the work in Africa must be brought up in Africa.

The English language will prevail in Africa before very long. England and America will dominate the world. Liberia will long continue to be an intellectual colony of the United States and England. Besides direct importations of literature from England, she receives American reprints of English books and periodicals. Shakspeare, Milton and Macaulay stand on the shelves of her foremost citizens side by side with Longfellow, Bryant and Lowell, so that in spite of race differences, and the unfortunate "previous condition" of their relations in America, they must enjoy through the languages they speak and the books they read, the religion they profess and the songs, sacred and secular, which they sing, a community of intellectual domain with the great Anglo-Saxon nations.

#### COLONIZATION.

Africa is the most singular in form of all the continents. It projects into the ocean no important peninsula, nor does it anywhere



let in the waters of the ocean. It seems to close itself against every influence from without. Thus the extension of the line of its coasts, is only 14,000 geographical miles for a surface of 8,720,000 square miles, so that Africa has only *one* mile of coast for *six hundred and twenty-three square miles of surface*. Europe is only one-third the size of Africa. But its principal mass is deeply cut in all parts by the ocean and inland seas having outlets to the ocean. The line of its shore is thus carried to the extent of 17,200 miles, an enormous proportion compared to its size. While Africa has only *one* mile of coast for six hundred and twenty-three square miles of surface, Europe enjoys one mile of coast for every one hundred and fifty square miles of surface. Although one-third the size of Africa it has 3,200 miles of coast more than Africa. Besides her littoral disadvantages Africa is guarded by a belt of malarious lands which fringes her eastern and western borders, and the north by a desert of sand, which the modern ingenuity of Europe has in vain attempted to flood.

These facts not only show why Africa has been through the ages destitute of commerce and trade—and therefore backward in the march of nations: but they prove also that it is impossible for Africans to become a commercial and enterprising people until the country first becomes civilized so as to remedy by the arts of civilization, especially by railroads, the natural hindrances and obstruction to intercommunication. But how is this civilization to be brought about? Well, if this question had been put four hundred years ago it would have been impossible to answer it. Four hundred years ago, America had not been discovered and the slave-trade had not commenced. But the prosecution of that nefarious traffic took millions of Africa's sons to America, where they were brought into contact with civilization and Christianity. They are being prepared for work at home. Their preparation is not yet complete.

Meanwhile, Europeans are making experiments in Africa. They are trying by their treasure, and by their arts and science to overcome the obstacles of nature. They are expending millions in the Congo country to supply the facilities for entrance into and locomotion in the interior which nature has not furnished. But after they have brought into the country all that money and skill can bring—then the insuperable difficulty remains, their lack of constitutional adaptation to the climate. The indomitable will and energy of the European will not allow him to see when he is conquered. But a few more years of experiment and suffering and loss will convince him that he, with the noblest aims and loftiest purposes, cannot do the work.

The man adapted to the climate is away from home being trained for the work. He is being educated in the art of agriculture

—the very thing that is destined to bring Africa into contact with other countries. Millions and millions of acres of fertile lands are awaiting his energy and skill. He is learning the mechanic arts—getting a practical knowledge of the sciences—learning science in its application—by actual practice. He did not attend any Universities for the study of the sciences—but his master, for his own interest, was obliged to have him instructed in the field, in the shop, on the roads. And now with his practical knowledge he knows how to carry on many of the necessary enterprises of civilization. He can build bridges, construct arches, rear columns, erect buildings. From the force of the circumstances in which he has been placed he has not only been Christianized but civilized, qualified to organize civilized communities—to cultivate the soil, build cities, engage in trade, regulate commerce, make laws and enforce authority.

The time has come, or is rapidly coming, for the return of the exiles, and God is raising up agents to promote it. He who permitted them to be “torn from the land” for the purposes of training will find the means to take them back. Those who cannot see this must be blind to design in Providence, and must loosely consider matters as going on at haphazard.

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NOTE. Thanks are cordially expressed to the *Missionary Herald* of Boston; *Foreign Missionary* of New York; *African Times* of London and *L'Africque* of Geneva, for facts and figures freely incorporated in this paper.

( Editorial from THE SUN, of Baltimore. )

SEVENTH ANNUAL PAPER ON AFRICA.

THE DARK CONTINENT.—In his seventh annual paper upon the "Dark Continent," a part of which is published in to-day's SUN, Mr. Coppinger, Secretary of the American Colonization Society, presents an interesting resume of the political events and geographical discoveries that constitute the history of Eastern, Western and Central Africa during the past year. The conclusions reached at the Berlin Congress in regard to the bounds and status of the Congo Free State were in April last formally ratified by all the Governments represented at that Congress, with the exception only of the United States. The extensive territories held by Great Britain on the Niger have been bestowed by that Power upon the Royal Niger Company, to administer and develop. Germany and France have amicably adjusted their disputes as to the limits of their respective African territories. Explorers have been busy during the year, with the result that light has been thrown upon many puzzling questions of geography and ethnology. *January 17, 1887.*

THE NEW AFRICA.—The second and last part of the seventh annual paper of Mr. William Coppinger, Secretary of the American Colonization Society, on "The New Africa," is given in THE SUN to-day. It treats of the possible influence of Germany upon the future development of the "Dark Continent;" the action of the African climate upon Europeans; the condition and prospects of African trade; the evils of the rum traffic and the efforts being made to restrict or suppress it; the general progress made by various missions; the condition and prospects of Liberia, and the general progress of African Colonization. Altogether the paper is one of the most interesting that has been written by Mr. Coppinger. *January 20, 1887.*





